

WHAT IS A TEAM PLAYER?

On the most basic level, a team player is someone who can work well within a group of people. This group is a number of people greater than one. On a deeper level, a team player is someone who can play a role in the team, to achieve and support the goals set and agreed upon by the team. There are two main aims of the Longwood University cheerleading team. One is to invoke positive crowd responses to LU athletic endeavors and the other is to represent LU as a premier institution of excellence athletically and academically.

In LU cheerleading, there are vital members of the team on the court, on the sideline, and in the background. Every member of the team has a very specific role – as a captain, as a base, as a flier, as a coach, as a spotter, or morale booster. Every member of the team is vital to the success of the team. If there is one person missing, the team is handicapped. If one person does not perform to the best of his/her ability, the team is handicapped. Egos do not and cannot play any part in teamwork. Egos get in the way, rather than create opportunities to reach our goals.

It is the job of every cheerleader to ensure that our team goals are met. Every member of the team will have specific roles and responsibilities in view of achieving these goals. True leadership has to have the loyalty of the team. If the team is not loyal or has no respect for the goals or each other, the members of the team will inevitably fail.

In every action of the team, the objectives of the cheerleading program (as outlined in the cheerleading contract) MUST be first and foremost. The success of the team relies completely on every member of the team carrying out their roles and responsibilities in line with the direction of the leader. There has to be a 'oneness' of the cheerleading culture. There is no room in the program for anyone who does not share the same cheerleading goals or objectives.

The pleasure of working in an environment where every member of the team is a team player is unparalleled. Before engaging in the LU cheerleading process, ask yourself this: Are you a team player? Are your own objectives in line with the rest of the team? Are your team objectives in line with the LU cheerleading organization?

We are looking for people who both understand and believe our personal statement of what a team player is.